

## Join the Harbor Oil Community Advisory Group

Interested community members have formed the Harbor Oil Community Advisory Group to learn about contamination at the site, inform EPA about their issues and concerns related to the site, and help inform other people who visit or live near the site.

The HOCAG meets on the second Thursday of every month (except August) at 7 p.m. at the Kenton Firehouse. Anyone who is interested in the Harbor Oil cleanup is welcome to attend. For more information, contact HOCAG Chairman Mark Stephan at 360-546-9467 or 971-645-9113 [stephanm@vancouver.wsu.edu](mailto:stephanm@vancouver.wsu.edu)



### What You Can Do

*Good cleanup decisions are responsive to community issues and concerns. You can stay informed about the progress of the investigation by adding your name to the project mailing list, looking at documents on the EPA website, or attending monthly meetings of the Harbor Oil Community Advisory Group.*

### For More Information

Suzanne Skadowski  
EPA Community Involvement  
[skadowski.suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:skadowski.suzanne@epa.gov)  
206-553-6689

Chris Cora  
EPA Project Manager  
[cora.christopher@epa.gov](mailto:cora.christopher@epa.gov)  
206-553-1478

# Cleaning Up The Harbor Oil Superfund Site



Portland, Oregon



U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency  
(EPA)

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## About the Site

Harbor Oil is located at 11535 North Force Avenue in northeast Portland, Oregon. The site was added to the U.S. EPA's National Priorities List in September 2003. Harbor Oil is a waste oil reprocessing facility, located on about 4.2 acres near Force Lake. The site also formerly operated as a tank truck-cleaning facility.

In March 1974, there was a major spill or release of waste oil from on-site storage tanks. In October 1979, a severe fire destroyed the facility and melted five 20,000-gallon above-ground used oil tanks. The catastrophe caused large volumes of used oils and smaller volumes of waste paints to flow west and south across the site, into wetlands that border the site and Force Lake.

Early testing conducted in the summer of 2000 showed contamination in soil at the site and in adjacent wetlands. The main contaminant found was polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's). Other hazardous substances include semi-volatile organic compounds, metals and pesticides. Contamination from the site may pose a risk to Force Lake and adjacent wetlands.



*Adjacent Force Lake provides recreation and wildlife habitat.*

## Harbor Oil, Force Lake and Your Health

The Department of Human Services Program Superfund Health Investigation Network (SHINE) has completed a public health assessment for the Harbor Oil site. SHINE concluded that the site does not pose a public health hazard because of limited access to the industrial site. As a precaution, SHINE recommends that recreational users avoid Force Lake and the adjoining wetlands. Likewise, fish caught from Force Lake should not be eaten. This report is available on the Web at: <http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/shine/hosite.shtml>

For more information contact Julie Early at SHINE at 503-872-6804 or [Julie.Early@state.or.us](mailto:Julie.Early@state.or.us)

## What is Happening in 2007

EPA negotiated a legal agreement with the Responsible Parties to complete a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. The study will help us learn more about contamination at the Harbor Oil site and develop a final cleanup plan. EPA will also determine if early action is needed to protect people and wildlife before the final cleanup plan is issued.